

The Sourdough

S E N T I N E L

Feb. 4, 2005

Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

Vol. 56, No. 5

Gas 'n' go

Cold weather, icy conditions don't faze these Arctic Warriors



-- Pages 12-13

Slow down

The Anchorage Police Department practices their winter driving skills Jan. 27 on a closed course on base. This training is conducted every six months and is designed to keep APD officers' driving skills as sharp as possible. Twenty-three officers attended this winter's driver training.



AIRMAN JONATHAN THRASHER

Action Line



Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass
3rd Wing Commander

Do you have a problem you can't seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done?

The commander's action line is your avenue to communicate your questions, comments and concerns directly to the commander, Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass. Your calls will get the commander's personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

552-2224

actionline@elmendorf.af.mil

The following commanders stand ready to help you and can answer the majority of your questions. If they can't help, then please call the Action Line.

Key phone numbers:

Col. Christopher Thelen, 3rd CES/CC
552-3007

Lt. Col. David Aupperle, 3rd SVS/CC
552-2468

Lt. Col. Robert Garza, 3rd SFS/CC
552-4304

Housing issue

Q: I live on-base in Kuter Court. I, along with my neighbors, have some concerns regarding the housing situation. I haven't lived here very long so I don't know a whole lot about the housing situation, but I've heard that we are going to be required to move from our current housing in the summer. Our court is slated to be torn down and turned into temporary living facilities and rumor is we will not be able to get housing on base. The feeling is that we're being kicked out, and the Air Force hasn't provided housing on base for us because Housing and the government doesn't care. We don't feel it is fair since most people live on base for security and the close-knit community we have.

Granted, we have the option of living off base but many don't want that, as they chose to live on base to begin with. If the government honestly doesn't care, I will take it up with my congressman, Mr. Carl Levin. It's not fair to uproot our families without providing alternate base housing. This needs to be taken care of as soon as possible, as a lot of people are concerned and deeply upset. Thank you.

A: Thank you for forwarding your concern. This is an important issue and I want to make sure all our housing residents are accurately

informed. The opinion that the housing office and the government do not care about our members is completely false. The new housing we are providing is proof that we care dearly about our members and their families. We have been working for two years to award the contract that will put us on the leading edge of housing quality throughout the Air Force.

The new contract will result in 1100 newly constructed or renovated houses, an increase in total housing units of 208 in Phase II ... and in only three years instead of the approximately 20 years it would take to replace our 40 to 50-year-old current housing; if we could guarantee adequate funding. In addition, it is very high quality and designed to accommodate Alaskan weather, as well as the wear and tear associated with military family housing.

We are not "trying" to get people to move off base, but in fact making it possible for more of our Airmen and their families to enjoy on-base housing.

It's true that as we transition to our new housing area, Moose Crossing, we must begin demolition and renovations in existing ancient and sub-standard housing areas. This means that if you are in our older housing, we will have to relocate your family. We are still working on

the relocation plan and construction schedule with our contractor. We will be moving about 500 families in the next two-three years, so this will be a rather complex plan.

The construction period will be challenging for officers and senior enlisted because the Air Force directed about a one-third reduction in those housing units over three years. I've asked our Housing Office and Aurora to propose a transition plan that will require each family to move only once, and to minimize the number of off-base moves. If we cannot find a way to move your family into another officer house in the field grade officer, company grade officer, or Denver housing areas, you will have a choice of moving into another on-base house (possibly a temporary area in our new Moose Crossing development for two- or three-bedroom qualified families) or you can move off base. I promise we will implement a plan that absolutely minimizes the situation where no base housing is available when we ask you to move.

Upon Aurora's submittal of the final construction schedule and our approval of that schedule, I will provide more detailed information via our Top Cover Web site, base newspaper, and town hall meetings. Thank you for bearing with us as we work hard to build the best housing in the Air Force.

Outstanding Performers

■ **Staff Sgt. Kevin Jackson**, 3rd Component Maintenance Squadron, prevented millions of dollars in potential foreign object damage to F-100 engines.

During test cell maintenance, it was discovered that an anti-ice valve block-off plate nut was missing. A 50-member search of the hush house was conducted without finding the part.

Not willing to accept defeat, Sergeant Jackson found a nut in a sliding bracket after disassembling a toolbox, thus eliminating a potential FOD hazard.

■ **Master Sgt. Charles Subotich**, 3rd Operations Group, manages the 3rd OG's administrative section, controlling the correspondence and decorations tracking for nearly 800 officers and enlisted personnel.

He provides executive-level support for the group's commander and staff, organizing the group's quarterly and annual awards ceremonies.

He also supports the local community through church involvement and has recently been selected as a first sergeant.

■ **Airmen 1st Class Frank Leeker and Jacob Thompson**, 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron, took the initiative to repair a 16 sq. ft. hole in the 3rd Communication Squadron's main conference room wall. They worked extra hours to erase the noticeable blemish shortly before a base visit from Pacific Air Force's staff.

■ This week's commander's shadow is **2nd Lt. Abdul Toulas**, 3rd Comptroller Squadron.

Housing hours

The Housing Flight's new customer service hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 552-4439.



The Sourdough
SENTINEL

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Best in DoD 2000

Best in Air Force

1999, 2000 & 2001

Best in PACAF

1998, 1999, 2000 & 2001

Editorial Staff

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3rd Wing Commander

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Chief, Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Mike Edwards

NCOIC, Internal Information

Senior Airman Amy Morrisette

Editor

3rd Wing Moment in History

Feb. 2, 1923:

Brig. Gen. Billy Mitchell, Army Air Service assistant chief, arrived to inspect the 3rd Attack Group at Kelly Field, Texas. He reported that most of the staff, including the commander, were inexperienced and their operations, training, equipment and facilities were unsatisfactory. He spent the next couple of days assisting the new group commander and staff in correcting the problems.



Club hosts night of entertainment, fun

By Staff Sgt. Mike Edwards
3rd Wing Public Affairs

For those who wanted a chance to visit Las Vegas, but just couldn't get away, the 3rd Services Squadron was able to bring a little bit of Vegas to Elmendorf Jan. 28 at the Susitna Club.

Several hundred people turned out for Roaring 20's Casino Night, completely filling the parking lot well before the doors opened at 7 p.m.

"It was an absolutely incredible night, packed full of fun people," said Tech. Sgt. Theo McNamara, 3rd Wing Public Affairs NCOIC of media relations. "I've been here almost seven years and I don't believe I've ever seen this many people crowded into to the club, ever."

In a fusion of ideas and themes, the club offered games of chance, a costume contest, dancing and dining. In addition, child care was also provided, allowing guests to make this a family night out.

"We wanted to try something new," said Mrs. Shena Jones, 3rd SVS marketing director. "We want people to have fun and enjoy the use of their clubs. This event brought in a lot of people who may not normally visit the club."

Participants were provided free poker chips to use at various gaming tables for Texas Hold 'Em, Blackjack, Bingo, Roulette and Craps. At the end of the night, these chips could be traded in for tickets for a prize drawing.

Prizes, provided by Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Bosco's, ACS and Trust Financial, included CDs, DVDs, a season pass for Hillberg



PHOTOS BY MRS. MARY RALL

Mr. Rodney Jones tries his luck against Mrs. Laura Baysinger, Blackjack card dealer, in games of chance during Roaring 20's Casino Night at the Susitna Club Jan 28.

Ski Area and gift cards, just to name a few. A grand-prize trip to Las Vegas provided by Harrah's was given to Tech. Sgt. Shintel Moss, 517th Airlift Squadron. *(No federal endorsement of sponsors intended).*

"I don't typically go to clubs, but I couldn't wait for the casino night to get here," said Sergeant McNamara. "The club folks really impressed me. In fact, I'm bringing even more friends to their next event. It was plain to see that everyone was

having a great time socializing and playing the different games."

According to Mrs. Jones, 3rd SVS received some great feedback on this event, some of which will help in planning for the County-Fair themed event slated for April.

"The preliminary response we've gotten so far has been very positive," she said. "We want to take a look at what works, what people want and try to make events like this even better."



Above: A prize table was set up during the themed event Jan. 28. Donations from local sponsors were provided as prizes.

Left: A drummer from Snapping Turtle plays the beat for the band as part of additional entertainment, which also included a costume contest, dinner and dancing.



Mr. Albert Delimont, assistant club manager, reads out numbers for the bingo portion of the Casino Night entertainment.

February is African-American History Month



AIRMAN JONATHAN THRASHER

Mrs. Renee Wade introduces her Mount Spurr Elementary School sixth-grade class as they prepare to present at the Susitna Club during the African-American Heritage Month kick-off luncheon Jan. 27. AAHM began in 1927 and is celebrated each February. This year's theme is "The Niagara Movement." The movement began in 1905, and was made up of 29 prominent black intellectuals led by W.E.B. DuBois. The organization met secretly at Niagara Falls and drew up a manifesto calling for full civil liberties, the abolition of racial discrimination, and recognition of human brotherhood.

Events schedule

Tuesdays

"Read to Succeed" will be every Tuesday throughout February at the Base Library from 10 a.m. to noon. The program will offer reading to youth.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Unchetta Dykes at 552-0156.

Feb. 12

A Health Fair will be at the Joint Military Mall from noon to 4 p.m. The fair will offer free cholesterol screenings, vision testings, blood pressure checks, literature, and more.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Linda Griffin-Haddox at 580-4078.

Feb. 16 and 17

Career Days will be at Fairview Elementary from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event will inform students about various jobs.

E - mail kendrick.hagwood@elmendorf.af.mil for more information.

Feb. 18

"A Taste of Soul" is an ethnic food tasting event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Kashim Club. Donations are \$5.

For more information or for tickets, call Senior Airman Kari-sha Robinson at 552-1457 or Staff Sgt. Doryan Robinson at 552-2381.

Feb. 19

A "Gospel Fest" will be at the Chapel 1 Annex from 4-6 p.m.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Nathaniel Sumpter at 552-1791.

Feb. 26

A "Red, Black and Green Ball" will be at the Susitna Club. retired Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton will be the guest speaker. Cocktail hour begins at 6 p.m. and the program will start at 7 p.m.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Nichole Awolusi at 580-3012 or Staff Sgt. Oluwasina Awolusi at 580-6830.

For more information about an event above or any other special observance, call Elmendorf's Military Equal Opportunity Office at 552-2115.

611th ASG garners PACAF’s Energy Awards

By Senior Airman Amy Morrisette
3rd Wing Public Affairs

The 611th Air Support Group recently won first place and a \$100,000 prize as the best energy management program in the Pacific Air Forces.

They beat 10 other PACAF organizations for the monetary prize that comes with being named the 2004 industrial category winner of the Pacific Air Force’s Energy Awards. Announced Jan. 11, the 611th ASG, which oversees remote sites all over Alaska, was recognized for its outstanding energy management pro-

gram and overall energy reduction. According to Mr. Spencer Moore, 611th Civil Engineer Squadron energy manager, capturing the title was largely a team effort by the staff of the 611th CES energy management shop. “We have an outstanding resource energy manager, Mr. George Strebel, who we worked with to make great strides in a program that was inactive two and a half years ago,” said Mr. Moore. “Since then, we have been able to make great headway in how we use our energy and plans for the future.”

In 2004, the 611th ASG had the

highest overall reduction in energy consumption in the Air Force. The unit’s conservation-minded efforts, such as better insulating heating distribution elements and using more efficient generators and equipment, helped it capture the top spot. The prize money is slated to be used for projects that will further enhance energy efficiencies at its sites around the state. Currently, the unit is working on implementing renewable energy technologies in remote areas with high-energy costs based upon various energy and environmental impact

studies they conducted. The 611th ASG is also working on several projects to maximize use of waste heat from power generation at several locations and is spearheading a plan to identify energy savings in over 500 facilities around the state. “The strong support of our leadership has allowed us to experiment with new technologies and with energy conservation measures that are proven cost effective for the Air Force and will likely have benefits for other remote Alaskan communities,” said Mr. Moore.

Deployed sergeant allows female in tent, gets Art. 15

■ A staff sergeant from the 3rd Medical Support Squadron, while deployed to Iraq, was derelict in the performance of duties in that he allowed a female in his tent. His punishment included a suspended reduction to senior airman, forfeiture of \$183 pay, and a reprimand.

■ An airman first class from the 381st Intelligence Squadron wrongfully used marijuana. Her punishment included a reduction to the grade of airman, suspended forfeiture of \$668 and a reprimand.

■ An airman first class from the 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, while deployed to Qatar, failed to obey a lawful order from a senior noncommissioned officer to remain in his position and was drunk and disorderly. His punishment included a reduction to airman and suspended forfeiture of \$348 pay per month for two months.

■ A staff sergeant from the 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, while deployed to Korea, failed to obey an order not to stay the night at Kunsan Air

Base and made a false official statement.

His punishment included suspended reduction to senior airman, forfeiture of \$441 pay, restriction to base for 14 days, and a reprimand.

■ A staff sergeant from the 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, while deployed to Korea, was derelict in the performance of his duties by negligently failing to complete an inspection of a toolbox.

He had a previous non-judicial punishment in which a reduction in rank was suspended. His suspension was vacated due to his further misconduct, resulting in a reduction to senior airman.

■ An airman first class from the 3rd Services Squadron, while deployed to Iraq, failed to obey a lawful general order not to consume alcohol. His punishment included a reduction to airman, suspended reduction to airman basic and a reprimand.

■ An airman first class from the 3rd Communications Squadron, while deployed to Iraq, failed to obey a lawful general order not to consume alcohol.

His punishment included forfeiture of \$200 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

■ An airman 1st class from the 3rd Communications Squadron, while deployed to Iraq, failed to obey a lawful general order not to consume alcohol. His punishment included forfeiture of \$200 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

■ A staff sergeant from the 3rd Component Maintenance Squadron, while deployed to Iraq, failed to obey a lawful general order not to consume alcohol. His punishment included a suspended reduction to senior airman, forfeiture of \$500 pay for two months and a reprimand.

■ A senior airman from the 3rd Civil Engineering Squadron failed to obey a lawful order not to drive on base and was found to have been driving drunk. His punishment included a reduction to airman first class, forfeiture of \$773 pay per month for two months, restriction to base for 30 days, 45 days extra duty and a reprimand.



SENIOR AIRMAN AMY MORRISSETTE

Senior Airman Mollie Graham

Duty title: 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, aircraft structural maintenance journeyman
Hometown: Leadwood, Mo.
Hobbies: Volunteering for Airman Against Drunk Driving and studying for staff sergeant
How she contributes to the mission: Responsible for repairing structural damage on base and transient aircraft, including painting and corrosion control
Time at Elmendorf: Two and a half years
Best part of being in Alaska: The halibut
Supervisor’s comments: “Airman Graham is truly a gift to my shift due to her extensive knowledge and ability to get the job done — whatever it may be.” Staff Sgt. Josef Spridgen



AIRMAN JONATHAN THRASHER

Army Sgt. Leslie Runyon

Duty title: Alaskan Command, automation information manager
Hometown: Waterford, Conn.
Hobbies: Spending time with her family
How she contributes to the mission: Responsible for computer support for ALCOM operations, including setting up e-mail accounts and maintaining Web pages, and managing more than 200 computer systems
Time at Elmendorf: Two years
Best part of being in Alaska: The summers
Supervisor’s comments: “Sergeant Runyon’s dedication and professionalism is the finest I’ve seen. She’s a hard charger whose genuine concern for others and the mission makes her a great leader in any branch of the service — she’s truly an outstanding noncommissioned officer.” Master Sgt. Alan Boling

Briefs

Annual Awards

The 2004 Team Elmendorf Annual Awards Banquet is tonight at the Susitna Club at 6 p.m. to honor the Airman, NCO, Senior NCO, CGO, First Sergeant and Civilian of the Year from base units.

The winners are the wing’s nominees to the 11th Air Force for the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year competition.

Dress will be semi-formal/mess dress for enlisted, mess dress for officers, and coat and tie for civilians. See your first sergeant for further details and ticket information.

Flu shot

The 3rd Medical Group has expanded the influenza vaccination efforts to include all 3rd Wing active-duty Air Force personnel, 50-64 year old beneficiaries and those who are in close contact with high-risk persons.

These personnel, as well as high-risk beneficiaries, should receive the vaccine as soon as possible. All active-duty members are required to obtain a flu vaccine.

Immunizations are given on a walk-in basis at the Immunizations Clinic or the Internal Medicine Clinic (only for those who are patient’s here).

The clinic is open Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For questions, call 580-2000.

11th AF Banquet

The 11th Air Force Annual Awards Banquet is Feb. 18 at the Susitna Club. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m., followed by the awards

ceremony at 8 p.m. Attire is semi-formal for military and coat and tie for civilians. Cost is \$15 for Airmen club members and \$18 for non-members; \$18 for noncommissioned officer club members and \$21 for non-members; and \$21 for Senior NCO and officer members and \$24 for non-members. See your first sergeant for tickets.

Prom Night

The Elmendorf Officer’s Spouses Organization is hosting a “Prom Night” Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Susitna Club. The theme is “Prom Night ... Come as you were!” The event is open to all officer spouses and the officer. Call the Susitna Club for reservations at 753-3131.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Masses will be Feb. 9 at 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in Chapel 2. All people of good will may receive the blessed Ashes. It is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat for Catholics. For more information, call 552-4422.

Home seminar

A Home Purchasing Seminar will be Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. at the Housing Office. The seminar is two to three hours. Seating is limited so call early for reservations at 552-4439/4328.

Wayland Baptist

Wayland Baptist University is offering all classes needed for a Community College of the Air Force degree. Registration is underway, and the term begins Feb. 21.

For more information, call 753-6416.

Fur Rondy volunteers

Volunteer opportunities are available in support of Anchorage’s Fur Rendezvous, the community’s biggest winter festival. Volunteers will be accepted through Monday.

To volunteer, e-mail or call Tech. Sgt. Theo McNamara at 552-5756.

Family clinic hours

The Family Practice Clinic’s walk-in hours for injections and blood pressure checks are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. The clinic is closed at 11:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month and all holidays and down days. For more information, call 580-2305.

Quit smoking

People suffering the blues from post-New Year’s resolutions to quit smoking can attend Smoking Cessation classes Feb. 15 and 22, and March 1, 8, and 15 at 11 a.m. or 5 p.m. for one hour at the Health and Wellness Center. Attendees will gain knowledge and medications that can result in a smoke-free life. To sign up, call 552-2361.

Club Gate Passes

Any individual with a DoD/military ID can sponsor a guest on base by filling out a Club Gate Pass from the Susitna Club cashier, Cave duty manager or Kashim Club duty manager during normal operation hours. For more information, go to elmendorfserVICES.com/gate_passes.htm.



Chapel Schedule

Catholic Parish

- **Monday through Wednesday and Friday Mass:** 11:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center
- **Thursday Mass:** 11:30 a.m. at the Hospital Chapel
- **Sunday Mass:** 10:30 a.m. at Chapel 1
- **Sunday Evening Mass:** 5 p.m. at Chapel 2
- **Confession:** 6 p.m. Sundays at Chapel 2

Protestant Sunday

- **Liturgical Service:** 9 a.m. at Chapel 2
- **Celebration Service:** 9 a.m. at Chapel 1
- **Gospel Service:** noon at Chapel 1
- **Fellowship Praise:** 6 p.m. at Chapel 1

Religious Education

- **Catholic Religious Education:** Sunday at 9 a.m. at the Chapel Center.
- **Protestant Sunday School:** 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center.

For more information, call the Chapel at 552-4422.

Arctic Life

Great living in the great land

It's tax season — volunteers are ready to help!

By Staff Sgt. Karie Mixon
3rd Wing Judge Advocate

Did you know that most units on Elmendorf have trained unit tax advisors?

UTAs have at least 40 hours of Internal Revenue Service training and the capability of filing taxes from an individual's work center, saving time and money. The base Tax Center also has knowledgeable and helpful volunteers for tax assistance.

UTA's will prepare individual tax returns only. Thus, UTAs cannot prepare taxes for people who own their own businesses, (other than a home daycare) or people who own rental property (other than a home a person is renting in your absence).

People should be prepared by having their W-2s, children's social security cards, bank account routing number, receipts for deductions and other tax documents that may be of assistance.

Most appointments will be 30 minutes to one hour. However, people who have capital gains/losses or own stocks and bonds may take longer.

For help filing taxes, see your UTA first. If your UTA cannot assist you, and you wish to make an appointment, call the base Tax Center at 552-3832.

The Tax Center is open Monday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for appointments only and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. for walk-ins; Wednesday from 8 a.m. to

4 p.m.; Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to noon for walk-ins, active-duty, spouses, retirees, people with DoD ID cards, and non-appropriated fund employees.

The following is a list of UTAs:

■ 381st IS: Master Sgt. Tim Rardin, Tech. Sgts. Stephen Curren, Carl Sweeney, Natchez Lee, and Ronny Ziesmer, Staff Sgts. Stephanie Veriato and Monica Camacho, and Senior Airman Nathan George

■ 3rd CS: Tech. Sgt. Sharon Baltazar, Staff Sgt. James Campbell, Airman 1st Class Douglas Afman and Mrs. Petra Branch

■ 3rd CES: Senior Master Sgt. Susan Lasiter, Master Sgt. Leon May, Tech. Sgts. Kenneth Way and Kimberly Perry, Staff Sgts. Peter Peterson, Terrie Weary, Jason Apalategui, Paul Eyring, and Scott Newton, Airman 1st Class Matthew Carter, Airman John Karel, and Mr. Eugene Underwood.

■ 3rd EMS: 1st Lt. Gina Edwards, 2nd Lt. Annette Bergman, Master Sgt. David Knight, Tech. Sgts. Tim Ensinger and Brian Sas, Staff Sgt. Adam Lewis, and Senior Airman Michael Westcott

■ 3rd CONS: 2nd Lt. Todd Garner

■ 3rd MSG: Master Sgt. Edgardo Caparas

■ 3rd MDSS: Master Sgt. Kenneth Jetter and Senior Airman Neil Boots

■ 3rd MDOS: Tech. Sgt. Dolores Ross, Staff Sgt. Shauna Oakland and Airman 1st Class Kelly Stone

■ 3rd DS: Senior Airman Ravenel Bright

■ 176th ACS: Staff Sgts. Ezell Joseph and Nance Pitts

■ 611th ACS: Staff Sgt. Michael Reyor

■ 611th ASUS: Master Sgts. Timothy Muennich and Robert Gunderson

■ 611th CES: Master Sgt. Troy Snipes

■ 732nd AMS: Senior Master Sgt. James Bredahl, Master Sgts. Daniel Schneider and Sabrina Roquemore, and Tech. Sgts. Gary Root and David McDonald

■ 3rd CMS: Tech. Sgt. Price Seim, Staff Sgt. Karalyn Irvin, Senior Airmen Steve Myers and Adam Deavitt, Airmen 1st Class Antonio Barranca and Nathan Lubeck

■ 3rd LRS: 2nd Lt. Craig Straight, Master Sgt. Mike Andruss, and Staff Sgt. Walter Haden

■ 3rd SVS: Mr. Tom Lawson and Mrs. Susan Speroff

■ 3rd OSS: Tech. Sgt. Rebecca Baxter and Senior Airman Jason Wellborn

■ 3rd AMXS: Master Sgt. Walter Sams and Staff Sgt. Angela Forbes

■ 3rd SFS: Tech. Sgt. Joel Ewing

■ 372nd TRS: Tech. Sgt. Rusty Compton

■ 3rd MOS: Tech. Sgt. Scott Shaw

■ 12th AMU: Master Sgt. Clayton



AIRMAN DE-JUAN HALEY

Brig. Gen. (then colonel) Michael Snodgrass, 3rd Wing commander, and Staff Sgt. Karie Mixon, 3rd Wing Judge Advocate, cut the ribbon to open the new Tax Center in the People Center Jan. 26.

Kitchen and Staff Sgt. Justin Bungcayao

■ 90th AMU: Tech. Sgts. Steve Riddle and Dayton Quiett

■ 517th AMU: Senior Airman Robert Beattie

■ 703rd AMXS: Tech. Sgts. Davidson McCreary and Baxter Rhodes

■ 611th APF: Master Sgt. Kevin Hoover

■ 3rd MSS: Capt. Isobelle Mahoney

The Tax Center will be preparing taxes until the end of the tax season April 15.

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

By Capt. Bradshaw Stout
3rd Medical Group

February is National Children's Dental Health Month.

The annual observance of children's dental health began as a one-day event in Cleveland, Ohio, on Feb. 3, 1941. Since then, it has grown into a national event. This celebration now reaches millions of people in communities across the United States and includes overseas military bases.

At Elmendorf, the 3rd Dental Squadron is gear-

ing up for this event. Staff Sgt. Brandy Mimitz, 3rd Medical Group, is leading elementary school visits to all the elementary schools on base and some off-base schools.

On these visits, volunteers will present videos, educational discussions and goody bags to youth. They will begin to introduce base children to the basics of oral health.

Studies have shown that children who have few cavities at a young age will continue to have good oral health as they mature, thereby decreasing their chances of debilitating oral disease. Rampant

caries and the resulting painful abscesses are all too common among children.

National Children's Dental Health Month is not only for children — it is a good time for all of us to reflect on the basics of oral health. Most children's hygiene habits are learned at home.

The observance is an opportunity for us to actively focus on our children's oral hygiene. Take some time this month to talk to your kids about oral hygiene, and above all, lead by example.

Note: The *Sourdough Sentinel* will publish articles on oral health throughout February.



Col. Deborah Kretzschmar, commander

Unit Spotlight 3rd Medical Group

MISSION:

The 3rd Medical Group serves the health needs of 106,000 Alaskan Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs beneficiaries through TRICARE, DoD/VA Joint Venture, and the Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership. The 3rd MDG provides superb access, high quality acute and specialty care, prevention and wellness services as the referral medical facility for Alaskan Command. The group also maintains a constant air expeditionary force readiness posture.





PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. PRENTICE COLTER

As part of the rigorous quality standards his flight maintains, Senior Airman Vincent Lee, 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels laboratory technician, tests a sample of JP-8 jet fuel for impurities.



Above and Left: Senior Airman Louis Stacks 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, fuels technician, checks the dials and guages on a hydrant servicing vehicle.

Front cover: Senior Airman Troy Criss, 3rd LRS fuels distribution technician, sets up a hydrant-servicing unit to service an Air Mobility Command wide-body aircraft prior to its scheduled departure.

Fuel technicians keep fuel flowing, safeguard quality

By Staff Sgt. Mike Edwards
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Keeping planes in the air takes a lot of teamwork by a lot of individuals — it also takes a lot of fuel. Making sure our aircraft have the fuel they need to fly are the men and women from the 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels flight. “It takes a lot more work than a person might think to refuel an aircraft,” said Capt. Erika DeVos, 3rd LRS fuels flight commander. “Working in a fuels environment, you have to take a lot of precautions to make sure you can do your job safely and effectively to meet more than 130 daily fuel requests.” The people who refuel aircraft spend six weeks in technical school training, followed by strict on-the-job training. “This isn’t like filling up your car,” said Senior Airman Jeremy Van Ede, 3rd LRS fuels technician. “When you are moving a JP-8 at 600 gallons per minute, you have to check and recheck your equip-

ment to make sure everything is operating smoothly.” In addition to providing the fuel, these technicians also ensure the fuel they supply is free of impurities. “When you are working with multi-million dollar aircraft, every precaution must be taken to keep it operating at peak efficiency,” said Senior Airman Vincent Lee, 3rd LRS fuels technician. “Any type of fuel impurities can degrade the performance of an aircraft engine.” “The fuel is tested numerous times before it is issued to the aircraft, ensuring it meets specifications for quality. We perform 700 tests monthly on more than 10 million gallons of fuel,” said Senior Airman Jonathan Hedrick, 3rd LRS fuels laboratory technician. When they aren’t in a laboratory or sampling equipment, these fuel technicians are where it counts — on the flight line. “Whether we are in Arctic conditions or under a blistering sun, we are right there, ready to provide our services” said Airman 1st Class Alexander Bitner, 3rd LRS fuels technician.



Above: Senior Airman Jamie Noirot, 3rd LRS fuels laboratory technician, prepares a fueling unit to fill the tank of an F-15.

Below: Senior Airman Jonathan Hedrick, 3rd LRS fuels laboratory technician, performs a quality control check on a sample of JP-8 jet fuel.



GOURMET NIGHT: Cultivate your relationship with that special someone at the Valentine's Gourmet Night Feb. 12 at the Susitna Club. This event will include personalized service, a five-course meal with candlelight, wine and dancing for \$53 at the regular price or \$50 with the members first discount. Social hour begins at 6 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Make reservations by noon Thursday. 753-3131

Black History

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS

- 1. Child’s game
- 4. Perform
- 7. Hand part
- 11. British river
- 13. Solomon’s wife
- 16. Away from the wind
- 17. Singer McEntire
- 18. Grey ____ mustard
- 19. First African-American U.S. Poet Laureate
- 20. Cube
- 22. Writer a.a. ____
- 24. Smack
- 25. Questionable pause?
- 27. African-American abolitionist, author
- 29. ____ Tai drink
- 32. Traitor
- 34. ____ gin fizz
- 35. Hotel
- 36. In the manner of
- 37. Formerly
- 40. African-American poet Maya
- 42. 3X African-American gold

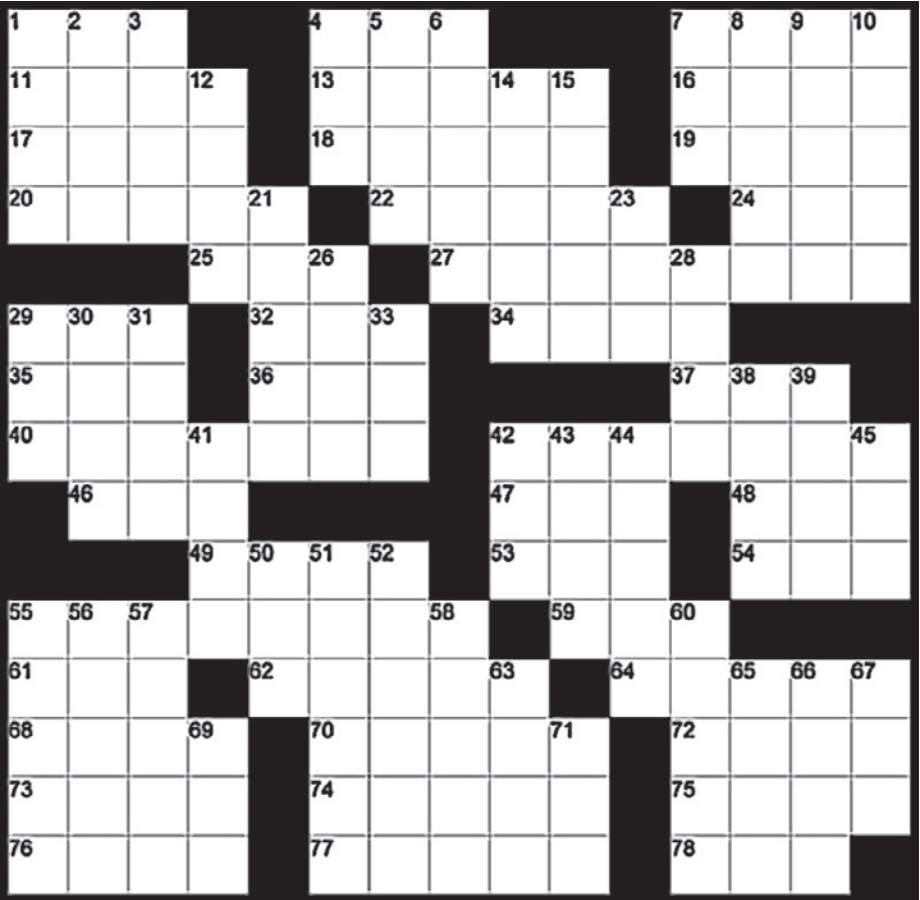
- medalist Wilma
- 46. Hearing aid?
- 47. Bullring cheer
- 48. Confederate general
- 49. First African-American Wimbledon winner
- 53. Compass point
- 54. USAF deployment cycle
- 55. First African-American Supreme Court justice
- 59. Commotion
- 61. Pub order
- 62. Bombeck and others
- 64. Expiration
- 68. African-Amer. civil rights activist
- 70. More ready, as in fruit
- 72. Sultan
- 73. __! __ mouse!
- 74. Actress Dunne
- 75. Invalid
- 76. Observes
- 77. Briny
- 78. 4 DOWN sound

DOWN

- 1. Plastic cover
- 2. Declare
- 3. Asian desert
- 4. Viper
- 5. Pal
- 6. Lukewarm
- 7. Bachelor’s place
- 8. Hawaiian greeting
- 9. Jean maker
- 10. Greets
- 12. ____ *Bridges*
- 14. Knives
- 15. Cancel
- 21. Painting
- 23. Self

L	A	N	D		A	C	H	E		P	A	R		
O	D	O	R		C	R	E	A	M		D	A	R	N
W	A	D	I		C	E	A	S	E		O	V	E	R
				P	A	R	A	R	E	S	C	U	E	
C	E	L	S	I	U	S		L	A	U	G	H	E	D
S	R	I		L	E	E		S		R		A	L	A
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R		M	U	D		C	I	A		A	R	K		H
	T		R	E	A	R		N	A	B	S		A	
	H	U	R	L	B	U	R	T	F	I	E	L	D	
B	E	N		F	E	Z		I	N	D		O	D	E
E		A	R	T		E	D		E	B	B		P	
R	A	R	E		M	I	N	O	R		A	B	C	S
E	L	M	S		G	R	A	T	E		H	E	R	O
T	E	S	T		M	O	P	E	D		D	O	N	

Last week’s solution



- 26. Angel’s head gear
- 28. Talk show host
- 29. Military status, sometimes
- 30. Famous Frank
- 31. Fox Sport reporter Hammond
- 33. 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 38. African-American jazz singer
- 39. Fencing sword
- 41. Periods
- 42. Director Howard
- 43. Arm bone
- 44. Titles
- 45. Playboy founder, informally
- 50. Female identifier?

- 51. First woman African-American ambassador
- 52. Mark Twain’s NY burial spot
- 55. Creates
- 56. Similar
- 57. Actress Zellweger
- 58. Coat part
- 60. 1936 4X gold medalist
- 63. Emitted
- 65. Flightless birds
- 66. Hurts
- 67. MTV show
- 69. Fuel
- 71. Marina del ____

Sports News



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTHAN

B-ball champs

Above: Mr. Tom Lawson, athletic director at the base gym, hands out T-shirts to the first- and second-place winners after Tuesday night's Intramural Championship game between the 3rd Communications Squadron and the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron.

The men from 3rd CES beat the 3rd CS team, 55-43. This is their second year in a row winning the championship while maintaining an undefeated record.

Right: Kevin Lenzly, 3rd CS, looks for a teammate to pass the ball to. Lenzly was one of the top scorers for his team, garnering 13 out of his team's 41 points.



Sports Shorts

Fitness Center classes

The following classes are offered by the Base Fitness Center:

- Learn a hip-hop routine step by step and put it together for one great workout at a Hip Hop Workshop Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Fitness Center.

- Celebrate your relationship this Valentine's Day with Couples Yoga Feb. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Fitness Center. Each duo will participate in a class

specifically for couples and receive a special gift. For more information, call 552-5353.

Swim lessons

Registration for the February swimming session is underway at the Fitness Center for \$40.

The classes begin the first week in February and are as follows: beginner on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00-5:30 p.m.; advanced beginner on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-6:00 p.m. and beginner on

Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon.

Fit Pregnancy class

Exercising during pregnancy is good for mom and baby. Learn how to workout safely at a Fit Pregnancy class Feb. 22 and March 29 at 10 a.m. at the Health and Wellness Center.

The classes are open to everyone and mandatory for all pregnant active-duty members.

For more information, call 552-9959.